

**INTERNET USAGE DATA RECORDING SYSTEM AND METHOD
EMPLOYING A CONFIGURABLE RULE ENGINE FOR THE
PROCESSING AND CORRELATION OF NETWORK DATA**

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Cross Reference To Related Applications

This patent application is related to the following Non-Provisional U.S. Patent Applications: Serial Number ~~XXXXXX,XXX~~^{09/559438}, entitled "Internet Usage Data Recording System And Method Employing Batch Correlation Of

- 10 Independent Data Sources," having Attorney Docket No. 10992224-1; Serial Number ~~XXXXXX,XXX~~^{7024,468}, entitled "Internet Usage Data Recording System And Method With Configurable Data Collector System," having Attorney Docket No. 10002145; and Serial Number ~~XXXXXX,XXX~~^{09/559693}, entitled "Internet Usage Data Recording System And Method Employing Distributed Data Processing and
- 15 Data Storage: having Attorney Docket No. 10002147, which are all filed on even date herewith, are all assigned to the same assignee as the present application, and are all herein incorporated by reference.

The Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a network usage data recording system and method, and more particularly, to a network usage data recording system and method employing a configuration rule engine for processing and correlation of network data.

Background of the Invention

- 25 Network systems are utilized as communication links for everyday personal and business purposes. With the growth of network systems, particularly the Internet, and the advancement of computer hardware and software technology, network use ranges from simple communication exchanges such as electronic mail to more complex and data intensive communication sessions such as web browsing, electronic commerce, and numerous other

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